



VISION

Eau Claire will be a healthy, vibrant, and productive community of exceptional natural beauty.

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MISSION STATEMENT

It is our mission to provide for the common good and deliver services essential for a safe, sustainable, and engaged community.

City Manager

City Council Representative Appointed for Aldermanic District 1

Timothy (Tim) Tewalt, 3604 Wildon Street, was sworn into office as the Aldermanic District 1 City Council representative on Monday, June 22. Council Member Tewalt also serves as a Program Director/Instructor at Chippewa Valley Technical College. He has lived in District 1 since 1991 and says, "....I believe that Eau Claire is a great community and I can help continue the fine leadership the City Council has provided over the years."



###

Community Development

First Friday of Each Month Features Something Special Downtown

Business leaders in downtown Eau Claire are offering something special to shoppers and other guests. It's a promotion that's called "First Fridays" and means that on the first Friday of each month there are special sales, events, and even entertainment hosted by participating businesses. Businesses also stay open later. On the first Fridays in May through October, businesses can also set up outside on the sidewalk, according to Salina Heller of Downtown Eau Claire, Inc. About four years ago, the co-owners of Tangled Up in Hue, Jamie Kyser and Erin Roesler, came up with the idea of bringing "First Fridays" to downtown Eau Claire and the event continues.

Check out these Links:

[City Website](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[City Council Members](#)

[City Calendar](#)

[Citizen Resource Bank](#)

[Form](#)

[E-Notifications](#)

[Social Media Links](#)



more reasons for people to come downtown and spend time enjoying what it has to offer, while also being an "individual business thing," for the businesses that participate, according to Kyser and Roesler. Kyser says different businesses are involved each month, though Kyser and Roesler feature an artist reception and live music in their store for each "First Friday" event.

"We were actually visiting another city and saw a flyer in a coffee shop," said Kyser, on how they came up with the idea. Kyser said the idea was "to have a more cohesive downtown." The point of "First Fridays" is to offer



Downtown Eau Claire hosts "First Fridays" each month-- participating businesses stay open later, hold specials, sales and promotions, and even host entertainment. This artist gave glass blowing demonstrations at a "First Friday" at Tangled Up in Hue.

Kyser said they book about six months to a year in advance for each monthly event. She said artists come to them for the most part, though if they see a local artist's work around the area that they like, they invite them. Heller says "First Fridays" encourage the development of social and economic activity and provide a unique opportunity for social interaction and sales opportunities. Businesses can stay open until 9 p.m. Click [here](#) to see what's happening on this First Friday!



Watch for more details!

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Fire & Rescue

Fireworks Safety

With July 4th approaching quickly, many fireworks sales stands are available throughout the city of Eau Claire. City fire inspectors have been inspecting all fireworks vendors including convenience, department, and grocery stores, which are required to have a City fireworks permit. All items that are being sold in the city of Eau Claire have been inspected and, to the best of the inspector's knowledge, are legal to possess and discharge when done in a safe and proper manner. An individual must be 18 years of age to purchase fireworks in the city of Eau Claire.

Each year, illegal fireworks are sold to the general public. Illegal fireworks are defined as anything that explodes or propels into the air. These fireworks can only be purchased with a permit signed by a City official. The City of Eau Claire does not issue any permits to the public for this purpose.



The following are some guidelines to help keep your July 4th celebration safe:

- ❖ Purchase fireworks legally from a reliable seller
- ❖ Have an adult present to supervise all fireworks activity
- ❖ Inspect fireworks carefully before using
- ❖ Have a fire extinguisher or water nearby when setting off fireworks
- ❖ Ignite fireworks outdoors in a clear area away from buildings, vehicles, and shrubbery
- ❖ Shoot fireworks off from a hard paved surface in a wide open area
- ❖ Keep spectators 25 to 100 feet away from the firing site
- ❖ Light fireworks one at a time—with your body not positioned over the fireworks
- ❖ Wear a long-sleeve shirt and pants, as well as safety glasses
- ❖ Step out of the way quickly after lighting fireworks
- ❖ Dispose of fireworks properly by dousing them in water immediately

###

Health

Beach Closings-- -Connect With Us to Get the Latest Updates!



The Eau Claire City-County Health Department's Environment Health Department closely monitors the level of bacteria in area beaches. Although closings may change your beach day plans, they are for the safety of all beachgoers. Exposure to bacteria in the water can make you and your family sick.



In 2014, the Health Department closed six of our community beaches for multiple days due to high bacteria count. This year, we have already closed three beaches. To get the latest news on beach closings: 'Like' the Eau Claire City-County Health Department on Facebook, follow us on twitter @echealthdept, or check out our website. If you have questions about beach safety in Eau Claire County, please contact us at 715-839-4718.

Library

Summer Cinema a Smash Hit

B.Y.O.B (bring your own blanket) for a night under the stars! The library has teamed up with U.W. – Eau Claire and Volume One for Summer Cinema, an outdoor movie series hosted on the West lawn of the Haas Fine Arts Center on Water Street. Activities start at 8 p.m. and the film starts at dusk. Library sponsored dates are listed below, see uwec.ly/cinema for the full schedule.

- Wednesday, July 8 • *How to Train Your Dragon* • Make your own S'mores
- Wednesday, July 29 • *The Avengers* • Meet local everyday heroes

Summer Reading Programs Underway @ the Library

June 1 marked the kickoff of the kids, teen, and adult summer reading program. Read or listen to books and earn prizes along the way. Highlights of upcoming youth events include:

- **Book Party** (school-agers) — Tuesday, June 30 from 1 to 3 p.m. (*Geronimo and Thea Stilton*)
- **Pint Size Polkas**—Wednesday, July 1 at 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. (free tickets required)
- **Introduction to Survival** —Thursday, July 2 at 1:30 p.m. (free tickets required)

Stop by the Youth Services or Information & Reference desk for more information, or check out the [library newsletter](#).

Read Off Your Fines!



School-age children can reduce their library card fine by reading! Each 15 minutes of reading takes \$1 off your fine. Check with Youth Services for dates and details!

Library Teams Up with Local Bank for Charity Challenge

Charter Bank has generously agreed to donate up to \$500 to the *Kids N' Cops* program! Area youth can help us meet that goal by completing fun reading and writing activities. The *Kids N' Cops* program is offered through the Eau Claire County Law Enforcement Agencies.

For information about library services, programs and events, visit the library online at www.ecpubliclibrary.info, stop at Information & Reference on your next visit to the library, e-mail the library at librarian@eauclaire.lib.wi.us, or call 715-839-5004.

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Parks, Recreation & Forestry

Recreation Superintendent Dawn Comte Wins State Award

Dawn Comte, Superintendent of Recreation for the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department, recently was named the recipient of the Dr. George Wilson Service Award. The award, given by the Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association, recognizes outstanding service to both the organization and the parks and recreation profession.

Comte has been a WPRA member for the past 25 years, during which she has been the chairwoman of the Conference and Recreation Committees, as well as a board member and regional representative for the Recreation Section's Board of Directors. Locally, Comte is a member of the Healthy Communities Committee, Eau Claire County's Chronic Disease Task Force, the Clearwater Winter Parade Committee, North High School Booster Club and National Night Out on Crime Committee.

She is a member of the Optimists Club and United Soccer Club. Comte holds a bachelor's and master's degree in recreation administration from UW-La Crosse and is a graduate from WPRA's Leadership Development Academy.



Photo: WQOW.com

Illinois Donor Pleased with Park's Improvements Made In Wife's Memory

Dr. Cliff Brown, a retired dentist from Peoria, Illinois, along with his son, Steve, recently visited Eau Claire to survey improvements made to the Rod and Gun Park. Dr. Brown had donated \$15,000 to the City in 2008 in memory of his wife, Audrey Peterson, who had grown up near the park.



Parks and Recreation Director Phil Fieber gave the Browns a tour, where they saw a new walk bridge, waterwheel and trees, all made possible by the donation. "They told me they were pleased beyond expectation," Fieber said. The Browns expressed their gratitude to the Parks staff, particularly Jason Palmer, who primarily maintains the park.

July Is National Parks and Recreation Month

July will be totally tubular as National Parks and Recreation Month turns 30. The National Recreation and Parks Association is sponsoring a ["Throw Back Thursday Instagram Challenge,"](#) where participants can upload a video of recreation "1980s style" in a city park.

Some popular Eau Claire recreation programs from the 1980s included tobagganing, baton twirling, aerobics and social dance classes that still included the Polka and Schottische. Sorry, no breakdancing.



JULY 2015 IS PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

COME CELEBRATE WITH
EAU CLAIRE PARKS AND RECREATION

IMPORTANT DATES

WEEKDAYS – HOBBS ICE CENTER

Lunch Break Open Skate – All ages, 11 AM-1 PM, \$3 per person, or city pass

JULY 2ND – FAIRFAX POOL

Feed Our Community - \$1 entry to pool if you bring a nonperishable food item to donate

JULY 4TH – CARSON PARK

4th of July Celebration – Sporting events (Express baseball, Predators football), Music, **FIREWORKS!!!**

JULY 6TH–10TH – FAIRFAX POOL

Shark Week – Sharky fun and games all week, \$4 per person per day, free with season pass

JULY 9TH – FAIRFAX POOL

Maxx Splash Bash – 1-4 PM, \$4 per person, free with season pass

JULY 11TH – FAIRFAX POOL

Water Safety Fest – 1-3 PM, Teaching water safety with fun games, \$4/person, free with season pass

JULY 15TH – CARSON PARK

Parks and Recreation Night – 6:35 PM Express game FREE with wristband or EC Parks and Rec T-shirt

JULY 16TH – FAIRFAX POOL

July is Parks and Recreation Month - \$1 entry if wearing an Eau Claire Parks and Rec T-shirt

JULY 30TH – FAIRFAX POOL

NFL Kickoff Day - \$1 entry to pool if wearing Green Bay Packer/NFL attire

FUN, ACTIVE, EVERYDAY OPPORTUNITIES... FOR YOUR HEALTH!



Frisbee Golf or Play Volleyball at Mt. Simon Park

Take your dog to the Eau Claire Dog Park

Have a Family Picnic at Riverview Park

Go Fishing on Half Moon Lake

Play Pickleball at McDonough Park

Enjoy the scenery at Rod and Gun Park

Catch an Express baseball game at Carson Park

Ride your bike on the City Trails

Check out the new play feature at Fairfax Pool

Walk Eastside Hill Nature Trail at Boyd Park

Visit Phoenix Park's community gardens, Farmer's Market, and concert series

There are even MORE ways you can celebrate Parks and Recreation Month:

- July 4-12: Six Flags Great America tickets discounted to \$34.25 a person for Wisconsin Parks and Recreation Week. Call 715-839-5032 for details.
- July 15: Free admission to the Eau Claire Express game if wearing a Parks and Recreation t-shirt or wristband. Game starts at 6:35 p.m.
- July 16: \$1 admission to Fairfax Pool if wearing a Parks and Recreation t-shirt between 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m.

Feed Our Community Dollar Swim Day July 2

Enjoy a day at the pool while helping the community for only \$1. The [Feed Our Community Dollar Swim Day](#) will be from 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday, July 2, at Fairfax Pool. Admission is \$1 for anyone donating a non-perishable food item.

Family Activities Planned Throughout July 4

Let fireworks cap off a full day of fun with friends and family this July 4. Eau Claire Parks and Recreation, along with its partners, have [activities](#) planned for all ages to enjoy:

- 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.: Paul Bunyan Logging Camp
- 10 a.m.-5 p.m.: Chippewa Valley Museum
- 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m.: Fairfax Pool
- Noon: Eau Claire Predators vs. Menomonie Thunderhawks (UWEC Simpson Field)
- Noon-5 p.m.: Carson Park Train Rides
- 4-9 p.m.: WAXX Boom Box, Rock 'N Roll to Go+ and the Festival Foods cart
- 6 p.m.: Eau Claire Predators vs. Menomonie Thunderhawks (UWEC Simpson Field)
- 6:05 p.m.: Eau Claire Express vs. Willmar Stingers (Carson Park stadium)
- 10 p.m.: Fireworks display, sponsored by Festival Foods



Photo: VisitEauClaire.com

Pirates Plunge Pool Party July 9

Have a fun time or walk the plank at Maxx's Splash Bash: Pirates Plunge from 1-4 p.m. Thursday, July 9, at Fairfax Pool. The lifeguards have planned games for the kids, while music and inflatable equipment also will be available. Pool admission is \$4 or free with a season pass. For more information, call 715-839-1680.

Registration Open for Run, Row, Ride Triathlon

Registration is open for Eau Claire Parks and Recreation's [Run, Row, Ride triathlon](#). The Aug. 8 event is a major fundraiser for the department's youth scholarship program. Participants can compete individually or as a relay in a 10-mile bike ride (helmets required), 3-mile run and 2-mile canoe or kayak (lifejackets required). Cost is \$20 before July 29; \$25 thereafter. For more information, call 715-839-5032.

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Police

New Outdoor Warning Siren

On June 18, 2015 a new outdoor warning siren was installed and activated at the Eau Claire Dog Park on House Road. This new siren will provide outdoor warning for the southeast part of the City that has grown over the last number of years. This is the second of three sirens added to the City of Eau Claire outdoor warning system, with the first siren being installed at Sherman Elementary School last year. The third siren will be installed next year on the north side somewhere along Jeffers Road, where there has also been continued growth.



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Public Works

High Bridge Nearing Completion

Project engineers anticipate the new High Bridge will be completed in time for the July 4 holiday. The multi-use pedestrian trail will cross the Chippewa River, connecting First Street with Forest Street, on the north end of downtown. Remaining work includes paving the asphalt surface and installing safety grating.

Lake Street and First Avenue Expected To Be Open By July 4

Work is finishing up on the intersection of Lake Street and First Avenue, with project engineers predicting a completion date before July 4. Crews have been working since May to replace utilities, traffic signals, curb and gutter, sidewalk and pavement.

Final Stretch of Downtown Construction Slated To Begin Early July

Work contained in the last block of South Barstow and two blocks of Eau Claire Street is scheduled to begin by early July. The project includes utility replacement, pavement replacement, new sidewalk, and street scape items, such as decorative lights, benches, trash receptacles and aesthetic paver bricks. Barstow Street traffic will be detoured to Farwell Street during construction, with an anticipated completion date of October.

Water Street Bridge to Undergo Construction After Labor Day

A year-long reconstruction of the Water Street Bridge is slated to begin shortly after Labor Day. During construction, traffic will be routed across the Lake Street Bridge via First Avenue.

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City Council Meeting Summary – June 22 & 23, 2015

The City Council

- Witnessed the Oath of Office of Tim Tewalt, the newly appointed representative to the District 1 seat, administered by City Clerk Donna Austad;
- Held a public discussion related to a proposed amendment to the Code of Ordinances, by adding a portion of Short Street to Table VIII, “Parking Prohibited”;
- Heard presentations on the McGrath Consulting Wage and Compensation Study and on the 2016-2020 Proposed Capital Improvement Plan;
- Proclaimed July as “Parks and Recreation Month” and learned more about the recreational and parks/open space opportunities available in Eau Claire ;
- Granted bartender and other licenses, along with Class B licenses granted to the Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce and to Oxbow Hotel;
- Authorized special events, including the Eau Claire Fastpitch Classic, the Steaming by the Water event, Summer Fest and Family Night in Park, the Chippewa Valley Sustainable Future Festival, and the UW-Eau Claire Homecoming festivities;
- Approved bids for city-wide street and utility reconstruction and the purchase of a ramp sweeper;
- Appointment Council members to various Boards and Commissions;
- Authorized the issuance of general obligation promissory notes;
- Revised the Tourism Promotion and Development Agreement with Visit Eau Claire and amended the Code of Ordinances Chapter associated with room tax;
- Amended the Code of Ordinances by adding a portion of Short Street to the Table entitled “Parking Prohibited”.



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Happy Independence Day